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party to burry the offell near his Stall—a sub Serjeant Corporal & 8 Men with the Comm' from each Brigade are to be sent immediately in the vecinity of their respective Brigades to seize the Liquors that they may find in the unlicenced tippling houses. The Commissaries will give Receipts for the Liquors they shall Ceize and notify to the Inhabitants or persons living in the vicinity of Camp, that an unconditional Ceize will be made of all Liquors thay shall presume to sell in future.

A Flagg will go into Philadelphia tomorrow.

	C	S	S	C	P
Detail for Guard . .	I.	-	I.	I.	6
Weeks Command . .	-	I.	-	I.	11
In Guards	-	-	-	I.	7
Quarter Guard . .	-	-	-	I.	6
	I.	I.	I.	4.	30

VIRGINIA LEGISLATIVE PAPERS.

FROM ORIGINALS IN THE VIRGINIA STATE ARCHIVES.

(CONTINUED)

OFFICERS OF VOLUNTEER COMPANIES AT WILLIAMSBURG, TO THE CONVENTION.¹

July 26, 1775.

[Printed; but without the signatures, in the Gilmer Papers, Virginia Historical Collections, Vol. VI, pp. 98, 99.]

¹ The volunteers of the Colony, fresh from civil life, were disposed to take the initiative in many ways improper for soldiers. This is shown by several communications from the officers at Williamsburg to the Conventions. In this case the letter here referred to was laid before the Convention on the 27th, was immediately considered in committee of the whole, and it was resolved that the proceedings of the officers, though they arose from the best motives, could not be approved, and that they be required to desist from carrying their plans into execution.

NORFOLK BOROUGH COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, TO THE CONVENTION.¹

Norfolk Borough Committee Chamber,
July 28, 1775.

The Committee, being informed that a Resolution has passed the Honorable Convention of this Colony, restricting the exportation of provisions after the fifth day of August next, and being fully sensible of the exceeding great hardships, to which many of our constituents will be thereby subjected, do instruct the members of this Committee, who are members of the Convention, to exert their utmost endeavours to procure a reconsideration of said Resolution, as bearing very heavily upon the merchants, who, reposing full confidence in the latitude for exportation granted by the General Congress, have made large contracts for the articles so prohibited and have now on hand considerable quantities of those perishable commodities—have chartered Vessels in foreign parts and regulated the voyages of their own shipping, so as to suit the continental regulations, without any expectation or reason to expect any such provincial restrictions. The said members are also hereby further instructed to point out the peculiar hardships arising from the short notice between the passing the said Resolution and the said fifth day of August, when it is to take effect: by which means the mer-

¹ Norfolk was at this time a flourishing town, dependent entirely on commerce, and the order of the Convention brought almost certain ruin to the inhabitants. The resolution of the Convention was adopted July 24, 1775, and forbid the exportation of flour, wheat or provisions of any kind after August 5th. On August 4, the Convention took into consideration the instructions from the Committee of the Borough of Norfolk, and the petition from the Committee of Northampton (which is printed below) and declared that they were decent and respectful and merited due consideration, and explained the reasons which influenced the Convention. A petition, however, from the merchants and traders of Norfolk is severely censured. On August 8, as the Maryland Convention had refused to concur in the prohibition of exportation of food-stuffs, the Virginia body rescinded its order, and left exportation open until September 10.

Norfolk was full of Scotch, English and Irish merchants who, in the main, were loyal to the British Government.

chants, unapprized of any such intention, unprepared for any such event, have had no opportunity to regulate their trade agreeably to this unexpected resolve, but are suddenly prohibited from commerce in the midst of their engagements and to the very great prejudice of their concerns. And further to inform the Convention that we fear this measure will be productive of great disputes between buyers and sellers, as well as between committees and their constituents; and that for our parts we are really under some apprehension that so chearful an obedience will not be paid to this distressing injunction, as our constituents are ever desirous to pay to all the decisions of that honorably body; and that we humbly request that the said Resolution may be repealed, at least so far as to give time for vessels that are now loading to take in their cargoes, and to allow the merchant some opportunity to order his affairs in the best manner he can to blunt the edge of this sudden calamity.

Ordered that the Secretary transmit a copy of these instructions to Thomas Newton, Junr., James Holt and Joseph Hutchings, Esq's, to be laid before the Convention.

Extract from the Minutes.

WILLIAM DAVIES,³ Sec'y.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY COMMITTEE TO THE CONVENTION.

1775.

To the Honorable the President and Delegates of the people of Virginia now assembled in Convention in the Town of Richmond, in the County of Henrico—the humble petition of the Committee of Northampton County in behalf of themselves & their constituents.

³William Davies, son of the eminent Presbyterian divine Samuel Davies, was afterwards an exceedingly efficient officer in the Revolution. Entering the service as captain he rose to the rank of colonel and served through the war. As a member of the Virginia Board of War he rendered especially valuable services. After the war he was a successful lawyer in Petersburg. He married Mary, widow of Alexander Gordon, of Petersburg, and daughter of James Murray, and among his descendants was Rt. Rev. Francis M. Whittle, Bishop of Virginia.

Humbly sheweth

That the people of this County have ever been jealous in support of the common cause and have inviolably observed those regulations established by the General Congress for maintaining the Liberties of America—fully convinced that those regulations would be strictly adhered to by all Ranks and orders of men our constituents have formed many engagements and entered into various Contracts in which they have considered themselves as under the Faith and protection of the Country whilst they walked within the line prescribed them by the united voice of all America—amongst other things they have in all their engagements had a particular Eye to that very material clause which prohibits the Exportation of all merchandize from this Country to Great Britain or the West Indies after the tenth Day of September next and have taken their measures in such a manner as may be little burthensome to themselves as possible and at the same time with a full determination strictly to perform that clause of the Continental Association—it is therefore with the utmost Sorrow we are informed that the Convention of this Colony has directed that a total stop be put to the export of Grain and provisions from and after the fifth Day of August next a measure which if strictly enforced will bring the greatest Distress upon many merchants and private families in this place and which hath hitherto subsisted amongst us whilst the Determinations of Congress were received as an invariable rule of Conduct in those points which that very respectable Body have taken under their consideration. Your petitioners beg leave to represent to the Convention that the people of this place raise very large quantities of Indian Corn which is generally unsold late in the Summer and altho we believe there is not so much now on hand as is usual at this season yet there are such quantities as to ruin many persons who have made Contracts respecting the same if the ports are immediately stopped.

Your petitioners therefore in behalf of themselves & the other Inhabitants of this place pray that the exports to the West Indies may be kept open till the 10th of September next and we beg leave to assure the Convention that the greatest care will be taken by this committee to prevent the exportation of any provisions to the Northward where there may be the least

Danger of their falling into the hands of the Army and that it will be our constant study to enforce within the limits of our appointment those regulations of the general Congress or Convention of this Colony which are now entered into or may hereafter be adopted in support of the common cause.

Northampton County, 29th July, 1775.

John Bowdoin, Chairman.

John Burton	John Respuss
Mich. Christian	John Kendall
John Harmanson, Sr.	John S. Harmanson
Nathaniel L. Savage	Geo. Savage
John Wilkins	Griffin Stith
Isaac Avery	William Roneld.

JOHN BOWDOIN⁴ TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONVENTION.

NORTHAMPTON, July 30, 1775.

Sir:—

Inclosed I send you a Petition from our Committee to the Convention as we but yesterday heard that the Convention had come to a Resolution to stop the Exportation of Grain & Provisions after the 5th of next month praying that the Export for Indian Corn may be kept open or permitted till 10 September should the Convention make no alteration in their first Resolution, many Traders and Planters will be greatly Injured here. I fully Intended to have been at the Convention but the Indisposition of my family prevented which was the case with Mr. Burton our other Delegate.

I am with the Greatest Respect Sir Your ob't Serv't

JOHN BOWDOIN.

Treaty Between Virginia and the Indians at Fort Dunmore (Pittsburg) June, 1775.

[All writers on this period of our history—or at least all whose works are accessible—have been either ignorant of the treaty here printed, or have made only vague allusions to it, which

⁴John Bowdoin, son of Pierre Bowdoin of Boston, who died in 1706, emigrated to the Eastern Shore of Virginia and had many descendants.

are evidently colored by their opinions of the later actions of John Connolly, who was the principal agent in the negotiations.

The old theory was that from the beginning of "Dunmore's War" Lord Dunmore was treacherous to the Colony, that he desired that Lewis be beaten at Point Pleasant, and that from this time he employed Connolly as a secret agent to incite the Indians against the whites. As far as Dunmore is concerned this idea must now be abandoned. Mr. Thwates states, very correctly, in his preface to *Dunmore's War* (XXIV), that "a study of contemporary documents will convince any fair-minded student of history that Lord Dunmore acted in this episode with disinterested discretion." And it is probable that the same change of opinion should be made in regard to Connolly's actions up to the summer of 1775.

The history of this treaty is as follows: At the treaty made by Dunmore with the Indians at the close of the war, they delivered hostages to him, and were told that the treaty would be ratified by the Virginia Assembly, and that in the spring of 1775 the Governor would again meet them, settle finally all difficulties and return the hostages.

During his western campaign Lord Dunmore became acquainted with Dr. John Connolly, a native of Lancaster, Pa., and a man of intelligence and energy. The Governor appears to have gone into partnership with him in land speculations and appointed him a major of militia and commandant at Pittsburg, which was then claimed as being in Augusta county, Va. Connolly had orders to rebuild Fort Pitt and to protect the interests of Virginia against Pennsylvania. The fort was rebuilt and named Dunmore. There are among the Virginia State Archives all of the bills for the erection of Fort Dunmore, with attestations headed "Augusta county, Va., to-wit."

Connolly made himself very obnoxious to the Pennsylvanians by the firmness, and, perhaps, indiscretion, with which he insisted on the rights of Virginia over the disputed territory. As the Pennsylvania Archives are in print, and little or nothing has been made public on the Virginia side, Connolly's career prior to the Revolution has suffered from prejudiced statements.

In the spring of 1775 as the Indians heard nothing of any con-

firmation of the treaty of 1774 and their hostages were still held prisoners, they became restless and threatening.

On June 14, 1775, the Virginia House of Burgesses received a communication from Richard Bland, member of Congress, who acquainted the House that several persons in West Augusta had addressed Congress stating the great dangers from Indians to which they were exposed, and because it was thought that the provincial Assemblies could not take action in time, Congress was asked to appoint commissioners from Virginia and Pennsylvania to meet the Indians. These petitioners stated that they were informed that the commandant (Connolly) for (the English) Government had instructions to assemble the Indians at Pittsburg, where the hostages and prisoners should be given up. The petitioners were jealous of the designs of Government, and therefore asked the intervention of Congress. The House of Burgesses immediately took the matter into consideration, and appointed Thomas Walker, James Wood, Andrew Lewis, and Adam Stephen commissioners to ratify the peace between the Colony and the Indians. On June 15, the House having received further information of the great discontent of the Ohio Indians at the delay in the ratification of the treaty Lord Dunmore had concluded with them in 1774, ordered that the treaty should be immediately entered upon.

It was determined that James Wood who had wide acquaintance and much influence among the Indians should proceed at once to the frontier and engage the attendance of the chiefs at the proposed treaty. He set out about June 25, and was absent nearly two months. In his passage through several tribes of Indians he was informed that General Carleton's emissaries from Canada had urged them to take up the hatchet. He was frequently in danger of his life; but at last was able to remove their prejudices and persuade them to promise to attend the treaty. These facts are ascertained from the journal of the Virginia Convention under date of January 5, 1776, when a reward of £250 was paid him for his services. Extracts from Wood's Journal during this trip are printed in Kercheval's *History of the Valley*, 3d ed., 136-137.

In the mean time conditions which seemed dangerous to the

people in Williamsburg appeared still more critical to the inhabitants of the frontier. Major Connolly, acting under the instructions of the Governor, who very properly desired to fulfil his promise to the Indians made the year before, and also, as will appear later, with the assistance and advice of the Committee of Safety of West Augusta, sent out invitations to the Indians to attend a treaty at Pittsburg. With the exception of the Shawnese, the tribes which were invited came. The conference lasted from June 19 to July 6th and a satisfactory agreement was reached. Connolly was arrested by the Pennsylvania authorities on June 21 but was released before the 29th. This arrest had nothing to do with any charge of disloyalty to America but grew out of the boundary dispute.

Wood, who arrived at Fort Pitt on July 9th, mentions the treaty which had just been made and says it was held "in the most open and candid manner, that it was held in the presence of the committee and that he (Connolly) laid the Governor's instructions before them."

On July 21, 1775 the proceedings of this treaty and certain resolutions of the committee were laid before the Virginia Convention, and on the 25th that body resolved that the committee of the county of Augusta had acted with the greatest propriety and prudence, and that the expenses of the treaty and the money advanced in presents to the Indians ought to be reimbursed by the public. This endorsement by the Convention strengthens the probability that prior to August, 1775, Connolly had not been guilty of any double dealing, nor had he endeavored to incite the Indians against the whites. Up to the time of the treaty printed below Dunmore had hopes of a reconciliation. He presented Lord North's "Olive Branch" to the Assembly which met on June 1, and it was not until the end of June that he showed an intention to commit hostile acts. Connolly visited him at Portsmouth about August 1st, and from this time may really be dated his efforts to bring about an attack by the Indians on the whites. Connolly went to Boston in September, laid his plans before General Gage and returned to Virginia in October. On November 23d, while on his way to Detroit, he was arrested at Hagerstown, Md., incriminating

papers were found on his person, and he spent the rest of the Revolutionary period in American prisons.

There is no documentary evidence, of a date prior to Aug. 1, 1775, to show that Dunmore and Connolly were endeavoring to excite the Indians against the Whites. Winsor (*Westward Movement*) states that in May, 1775, Dunmore informed the English government that Connolly at Pittsburgh had been instructed "to endeavor to incline the Indians to the royal cause." But it is possible that Mr. Winsor construed Dunmore's letter in the light of later events. At that time everybody in Virginia professed an "inclination to the royal cause." It is true that in his plan laid before Gage, Connolly stated that under Lord Dunmore's instructions, he had prepared the Western Indians to act in concert against his Majesty's enemies. There is however nothing in his known actions to confirm this claim.

In the fall of 1775 the Commissioners appointed by the House of Burgesses met the Indians and made a satisfactory treaty with them.

See Winsor *Westward Movement* 86 &c; the Journals of the Va. House of Burgesses and Conventions as cited; Forces Archives, 4th series, Vol. I, 475-483, 1222; II, 612-615; III, 71, 1542, 1660-1661; Kercheval's *History of the Valley of Virginia* (3d ed.) 129-139; *Dunmore's War*, Wis. Hist. Soc.; and Withers' *Border Warfare* (new edition).

JOHN CONNOLLY TO THE CHIEFS OF THE SHAWANESE.

To the Chiefs of the Shawanese.

Brethren: I am sorry that the Business which has for some time past employed the great Man of Virginia should have prevented his meeting you at this place agreeable to his promise made you when in your Country. But as that great Business yet continues he desires some of the Chiefs of the Shawanese to come up as soon as possible to the forks of the River so that the Chain of Friendship may be brightened and the affairs that were not finally settled with you and the Mingoes may be adjusted to our mutual satisfaction. It is possible the Great Man

may be here to meet you, but if not, some person will be appointed by him to speak to you which I hope will be sufficient to convince you his younger Brethren the Shawanese that notwithstanding the great hurry of his affairs he had not forgot their Interest. Your friends who went with the great Man I expect will meet you here.

Given under my hand and Seal this 19th day of May, 1775.

(Signed) JOHN CONNOLLY, [L. S.]

JOHN CONNOLLY TO THE CHIEF OF THE MINGOES.

To the Chiefs of the Mingoës.

Brethren: The great Man of Virginia at this time being engaged in very Important Business which may probably prevent his coming as soon as he could wish or you might reasonably expect in order to convince his Brethren the six Nations that he is not however unmindful of the situation of some of your friends who lately have imprudently offended against his people has given me directions to call you together to this place as soon as possible in order to brighten the antient Chain of Friendship and to restore to you in health and peace the young men of your Nation which have remained here with us this Winter. Your Friend the great Man of Virginia will if possible meet you here, if not he will appoint some person for him to shake hands with his Brethren the Mingoës and to renew that Friendship between your people & the Big Knife which he hopes may never again be shaken.

Given under my hand and Seal at Fort Dunmore this 20th May, 1775.

(Signed) JOHN CONNOLLY, [L. S.]

JOHN CONNOLLY TO THE CHIEFS OF THE DELAWARES.

To the Chiefs of the Delawares.

Brethren: The great hurry of Business which has for some time past engaged the great Man of Virginia may possibly prevent him from coming out at this time to see you—yet mindful of the great friendship that was shewn to his people by his Brethren the Delawares he has desired me to call in the Chiefs

to this place so that the Chain of Friendship may be brightened and that the regard which he has for his Brethren the Delawares may be shewn to all persons.

It may so happen that the Great Man may not have the satisfaction of personally shaking hands with his Brethren the Delawares. But in case that should happen from the important Business in which he is now engaged he will appoint some person for him to assure them of his steady Friendship and the Remembrance which he has of their late attachment to his people during the late Troubles.

Given under my hand and Seal at Fort Dunmore this 21st May, 1775.

(Signed) JOHN CONNOLLY, [L. S.]

ALEXANDER MCKEE TO THE CHIEFS OF THE SHAWNESE AND MINGOES.

To the Chiefs of the Shawnese & Mingoes.

Pittsburgh, May 20th, 1775.

Brethren: As you have now received Messages from your Brother the Governor of Virginia to come to a meeting proposed to be held with you at this place you will be able to satisfy the uneasiness of your people for their friends detained amongst us and as I hope there is a near prospect of every thing relative to them and other matters between you and your Brother the Governor of Virginia being settled to your mutual satisfaction therefore your own anxiety will I make no doubt expedite a few of your Chiefs speedily to attend upon this occasion agreeable to the Invitation you have received and that you will not be deter'd by or pay regard to any misrepresentations you may hear.

A String.

ALEX'R MCKEE,
Dep'y Agent for Indian Affairs.

MINUTES OF TREATY AT FORT DUNMORE (PITTSBURGH).

Fort Dunmore, June 19th, 1775.

A number of six Nation Chiefs arrived in consequence of a

message sent them to attend a treaty to be held with the Western Indians by the Earl of Dunmore on behalf of the Colony of Virginia.

June 21st.

The above Chiefs met Major Connolly at Col. Croghans where they performed those Ceremonies of wiping the tears away and cleaning their Ears with removing every uneasiness from the heart; after which they informed him that they would wait upon him the next day at the fort and speak further to him.

June 22d.

The six Nations being arrived here in order to have a Meeting with Major Connolly agreeable to their Engagement yesterday were disappointed; This Gentleman having been carried off the Evening before by a number of armed men and taken towards Ligonier the Indians therefore informed me that they would be glad to speak to the Principal Inhabitants here and desired that I would be present.

At a Meeting of the Principal Inhabitants of this place, the six Nations spoke as follows:

Brethren: Yesterday we spoke to our Brother Major Connolly who represents the Big-knife, Coll. Croghan and Keyashuta. We wiped the tears from their Eyes, opened their Ears and cleared their throats that what we might say to the White people might have a due Impression on their minds, but when we came to this place to day to speak again to our Brother the Big-knife, surprised to find nothing but his bed, himself not to be found we are at a loss to account for the reason, but when we look back to the Councils of our wise forefathers our hearts continue to retain the same good sentiments towards you.

Brothers, you know you sent to our Town this Belt and that you allowed us to come here to the Council Fire, we are now come as you see us agreeable to your Invitation to listen to every thing that is good which has been of so long continuation between us.

A Belt.

Brethren: Our Brother the Big Knife and Mr. McKee sent this speech to us last summer advising us in what manner to

conduct ourselves in the troubles at that time that as we had no Chiefs among us in the towns we lived in we were to be pitied, therefore you desired us not to take any Notice of the foolish part that some people were acting at that time.

Brothers, tho' we are young we took your advice and recommended the same to our young men and have now met you this day in Council.

A String.

Brethren: The Big Knite and Coll. Croghan sent us up a speech desiring us to be in readiness to come down to a little Council fire and to bring two of each tribe along with us as the times were hard on account of scarcity of provisions; We are now come as you see us with sincere friendship towards you and we hope yours is the same to us.

A Belt.

Brethren; This is all we have to say at this time and we want to know at what time we shall have an answer.

to which the following reply was made:

Brethren: We return you thanks for the kind professions of Friendship you have made to us by your speeches & will thoroughly consider them and give you an answer as soon as possible.

A String.

June 26.

A Message to the Six Nations.

Brethren, Chiefs of the six Nations:

As some Chiefs of our Brethren the Delawares are expected here this day: we request that you would also remove and encamp near them opposite to this place as you will then be more convenient when we are ready to speak to you which we hope will be very soon; and we desire you will not be uneasy on that account untill those of our friends necessary to be present are collected together.

A String.

At a Meeting held with the Indians at Fort Dunmore June 29th, 1775, on behalf of the Colony of Virginia.

PRESENT:

Major John Connolly, Alex'r McKee, Esq'e, Dep'ty Agent,
Coll. George Croghan.

Majors William Crawford, Edward Ward, Thomas Smalman,
John McCollough.

Captains Stephenson, Pentecost, Graydon.

John Campbell	} Gent. Justices of the Peace.
John Cannon	
Alex'r Ross	
John Gibson	

The Rev'd Mr. Balmain,	} Att'y at Law.
Mr. Charles Simms	

with a number of other Gentlemen principal Inhabitants of the
Country.

INDIANS.

Six Nations.

Keyashota
Enyouyouda
Cauchcauchauteda
Sonowois
Sirewhoane

Delawares.

Custaloga
New, Corner
Capt. White-eyes
Capt. Pipe
Capt. Killbuck
Seapichili
Esheeaunehowet
Metechamin.

Warriors.

Concuyendan
Gughsanego
Togashsweganent
Canechtowne.

Major Connolly spoke as follows:

Brethren, Chiefs of several Nations, present:

I am glad to see so many of you met together on my Invitation, and I take this opportunity of bidding you hearty welcome; agreeable to Custom, Brethren, I wipe the sweat and dust from off your bodies which the Fatigue of your Long Journey hither many have occasioned.

A String to each Nation.

Brethren : I next clear your Ears of every false and evil report that may have entered them on your way and that may be prejudicial to the occasion we are now met upon that you may be the better able distinctly to comprehend what may be said to you.

A String to each Nation.

Brethren : I now wipe the tears from your Eyes which hath been shed for the losses you have sustained in the death of any of your friends since we last saw each other in Council; and I likewise remove any Grief from your hearts which may continue to give you Trouble on this account, that your minds may be at ease and Tranquility to receive the good speeches that is to be delivered to you with satisfaction.

A String to each Nation.

Bretheren :

Chiefs of the six Nations Present.

It gives me pleasure to see so many of you here who have shewn your Wisdom by a strict adhereance to the peace of this Country during the last summer, and that I have an opportunity of restoring into your hands those of your Emigrants who have been heretofore led astray who we hope for the future will have the benefit of your wise advice and I would be glad to convince you that it was the sole design of your Brother the Big-knife in ordering them to be brought to this place and that we had nothing more at heart than the general good of the whole which I make no doubt you will be fully convinced of and that you will cheerfully join with us in establishing a lasting friendship.

A Belt.

Brethren :

Chiefs of the Mingo Prisoners.

As we now return you into your former situation in the chain of friendship we are to expect that you will be strong in promoting good and that you will ever for the future have a due regard to the advice and Councils of the wise Chiefs of the six Nations whom you will always find so strictly united in friendship with their Bretheren the English as not to be shaken and they are the only people who study your real welfare. Therefore we

make no doubt from the friendly and brotherly treatment you have met with amongst us, that it is our greatest desire to live in peace and amity not only with you but all our Indian Bretheren, in promoting of which from your Knowledge now of our kindness you will have it greatly in your power to promote and to enable you to this good end, We deliver you this belt.

A Belt.

Bretheren :

Chiefs of the several Nations.

As our younger Bretheren the Shawanese are not yet arrived and we have finished the necessary Ceremonies usual upon such occasions between who are present, we think it best to wait a few days for the Shawanese as it is probable we may in that time see or hear from them; This will convince them we were not unmindful of them.

A String.

This is all Bretheren the Big knife has to say to you at Present.

The answer of the six Nations to the speech requesting their opinion whether the Treaty is to be delay'd for the coming of the Shawanese.

Brother the Big Knife : We like well to hear what you say concerning our younger Bretheren the Shawanese which will convince them they were not forgot by either of us, but as our situation here is well known to both of us with respect to the scarcity of provisions, time cannot be delay'd long, however we are willing to stay three days and if we do not hear from them in that time we shall then be better able to judge how to proceed at our meeting.

A String.

The Delawares answer to the same.

Bretheren : We return you thanks for what we have heard today, we are glad to see from what has passed that our friendship bears so good an aspect, what the six Nations have agreed to with regard to the Shawanese, we are satisfied with.

A String.

Inquiry being made after two remaining Prisoners, the fol-

lowing Message was sent by the six Nations and Delawares to the Shawanese.

Bretheren the Shawanese: As your Brother the big Knife and we are now in Council strengthening the Chain of Friendship and your Brother the Big Knife makes a request to us that you will send up as soon as possible, two prisoners who are yet in your custody; We desire you to be strong and to comply with it and also perform every other promise you have made to the Big Knife at Camp Charlotte last Fall, as they have now complied with our request to them in delivering up our flesh and blood at this time.

A MESSAGE TO THE SHAWANESE BY DAVID DUNCAN.

Brethren of the Shawanese:

As there has now some considerable time past, since that appointed for you to meet here in Council and that Chiefs from the six Nations and Delawares are and have been waiting for you; I therefore take this opportunity by David Duncan to inform you of those things and that we have also heard that some French men who have been amongst you had called you to a Council; If this is the real cause of your delay I would be glad you would inform me of it as I cannot possibly remain here much Longer and those Nations now met here are desirous of returning home.

Given under my hand & Seal this 1st day of July, 1775.

(Signed) JOHN CONNOLLY, [L. S.]

To the Chiefs of the Shawanese.

At a meeting held with the Indians at Fort Dunmore the 3d day of July, 1775, in behalf of the Government of Virginia.

PRESENT.

Major John Connolly, Alex'r McKee, Esq'r, Dep'y Agent, Col. George Croghan and the rest of the Gentlemen as before.

INDIANS.

The same Chiefs and Warriors of both Nations as before.

The six Nations spoke as follows:

Bretheren: A few days ago when we met together in Council you then performed the Ceremonies usual on such occasions and also delivered up our flesh and blood for which we are extremely thankful and we can assure you when we report it to the Council of the six Nations it will afford them singular satisfaction.

When you delivered them up you desired them to listen to their own Chiefs; we have told them to be strong and to turn their Eyes towards us which they have promised to do for the future.

A String.

Bretheren: Our Flesh and Blood whom you have delivered up to us, are very thankful for what you have done for them as well as us, and we now accompany the belt you gave them with this string to the heads of those scattering Mingo^{*} upon Scioto and recommend it to them in Conjunction with you to observe the advice which you gave them on your part and we now desire them to look towards the Chiefs of the six Nations for the Government of their future Conduct.

Shew'd a Belt and a String.

Bretheren: As we cannot well do without a person who understands the Language of the six Nations, We therefore desire that Simon Girty should be appointed to interpret any matters we may have to say to you hereafter upon Public Business; and if it is agreeable to you we desire that your String may accompany ours to the six Nations upon this Subject to let them know of such agreement.

Bretheren: When you first invited us to this Council fire, We expected that Business would not be delayed. We have now waited the three days for our younger Bretheren the Shawanese,

* The original Mingo tribe was conquered by the Iroquois about 1675 and the remnant incorporated in their league. The Mingo of the eighteenth century were a mongrel race, chiefly wanderers from the New York Iroquois stock.

and we would be glad how soon any further Business you may have with us could be finished.

A String.

From the Delawares to the six Nations, spoke by Capt. White Eyes.

Uncles the six Nations—

It gave us your Nephews great pleasure to hear you and your Bretheren the White people relate over matters relative to the friendship which has been established between us at Sir William Johnstons and we congratulate you upon the restoration of your friends and we are obliged to our Bretheren the White People for the good advice which they have given them and we not only desire them to be strong and turn their Eyes towards the Chiefs of the six Nations; but we desire that scattered Mingoes will remove and settle themselves under the Eyes of their Chiefs this will be the right method of taking Pity on your Women and Children and preventing disturbances for the future.

A Belt sent to the Stragling Mingoes on Scioto.

Major Connolly told the several Nations that he was glad they appeared so well satisfied and requested they would be ready tomorrow to appear in Council when they were sent for and that he would then speak further to them.

At a Council held at Fort Dunmore the 4th day of July, 1775.

PRESENT.

Major John Connolly, Alex'r McKee, Esq'r, Dep. Agent, Coll. Croghan with the same Gentlemen as before.

Indians same as before.

Major Connolly spoke to the Different Nations as follows:

Bretheren.

Chiefs of the six Nations present.

As you appeared yesterday in Council anxious of returning home and no certain accounts when the Shawanese are to be expected, therefore at your desire we now proceed to finish the Business that we met upon.

A String to each Nation.

Bretheren: We have hitherto spoke of matters which been always considered at meetings by our wise men; We next by these Belts collect all the bones of our deceased friends who have unfortunately fallen into the late disturbances by the rash conduct of foolish people instigated by the spirit and after burrying them deep in the Earth we transplant the tree of peace over them that every Remembrance of them may for ever hereafter be buried in a future Enjoyment of a lasting Friendship.

A Belt to each Nation.

Bretheren: As some foolish people of both sides have found means of getting into their possession Warlike Weapons with which they destroyed one another We now take them out of their hands in behalf of the great Man of Virginia who proceeded into your country last year with this design and after thus convincing them of their folly, he then buried them deep in the earth. With the Belt we press the Earth close upon them that they may never rise again.

A Belt to each Nation.

Bretheren: As we have buried the bones and weapons which our young people held in their hands and used against each other, by this Belt we now remove the Thorns and Briars which have grown up in the path towards the Sun setting during the late disturbances which we now deliver to our Bretheren the Delawares to be handed thro' them to the Shawanese, Weyandots and other Western Nations being best situated for that purpose and that they may now inform our Western Bretheren that the Road is again opened and may now be travelled towards this Council fire with Ease & Safety. That they may be assured that from henceforwards our great people and the six Nations the Road has never been obstructed but has been and yet remains plain and open as ordered by our wise men.

A Road Belt.

Bretheren: As we now have the pleasure once more of entering into our Antient Council house, by this Wampum as usual on such occasions I sweep it clean of all Dusts which it has contracted since we last met into it, and I wipe away all those

spots which may have fallen upon it that no stain of Discontent may remain to trouble us, but when we are seated in it with ease and tranquility we may be enabled to look around us and see every thing appear clear and fair to our view.

A Bunch of White Wampum to each Nation.

Bretheren, Chiefs and Warriors of the several Nations here present.

Listen with attention to what we are now going to say to you. I rejoice Bretheren that it has pleased God to permit so many of you to meet here this day at your old Council fire. It gives me pleasure to see you come with a good design of giving your assistance to repair it and adding such fuel to it that the Blaze will again be beheld by all Nations in friendship with us, and that notwithstanding the bad spirit had got so far the better of some foolish people to disturb it, we have been still able to guard it and preserve it from being totally extinguished by their rash inconsiderate Conduct which we now earnestly desire may be eternally forgot and buried in oblivion so that nothing may remain to interrupt us at this time from renewing the Friendship Covenant made and maintained long by our wise forefathers and that this fire which they have kindled for our mutual advantage may by our prudence burn bright to our latest posterity.

Bretheren : From the Confidence we have all reason to place in the Wisdom of our Bretheren the Delawares as well as their regard for the peace of this Country which they have manifested in many Instances of their Conduct during the late troubles Therefore as a Testimony of our Sincerity on this occasion we deliver into their hands this Belt of Friendship desiring that they would not only hold it up to the view of all here present but to all those linked in the great chain of Friendship with us, that what now has passed between us may be held in constant Remembrance.

A Large Belt representing the chain of Friendship.

Bretheren : As we have now finished every material matter and brightened the chain of Friendship, I have to inform you that your Brother the Big Knife is desirous that you should

acquaint your people to refrain from hunting amongst his people who are now settling in great numbers on the South side of the Ohio until we may have an opportunity of regulating their Settlements least any accidents prejudicial to the peace now established should happen.

A Belt.

Bretheren : With respect to the speech you delivered yesterday desiring the Continuance of an Interpreter I shall forward it to Colonel Johnson who no doubt will consider the necessity of allowing one to be continued and so soon as I am favoured with his directions I shall acquaint you of it.

A String.

At a Council held at Fort Dunmore the 5th July, 1775.

PRESENT.

Major John Connolly Alex'r McKee Esq'r Dep. Agent and the same Gentlemen as before—

Also the same Indians of each Nation.

The Chief Warriors of the Senecas in presence of the Six Nations spoke as follows:

Bretheren the Big Knife : You invited us to a small Council Fire at this place to which we readily repaired and we are extreamly glad to hear the good speeches which you have now delivered us. We are now fully convinced that you are our sincere friends and that you are determined finally to settle the late disturbances which happened in this Country. We desire you to be strong and always continue in the same way of thinking. The Warriors and the Women are particularly thankful for this agreeable circumstance and return you their hearty thanks—During the late disturbances the Chiefs of the six Nations were at a loss how to judge of the matter from appearances but they are now heartily satisfied with your conduct and friendly disposition towards them and return you their hearty thanks also.

A Belt.

Bretheren the Big Knife : We are very much obliged to you for calling to our recollection the good speeches which have passed between our forefathers and from what you have said now there remains no doubt of a lasting Friendship.—As the Communication from all Quarters is now open to this Council Fire which you have now prepared we would gladly remind you of one thing which is That you would appoint a Smith to mend our Guns and Tomhawks as usual when we passed up and down this River. And further, that there may be a person appointed for the regulation of trade at this place as it would be very agreeable to all Nations and prevent Impositions on us in our Dealings with you ; and as Amunition is so dear and Game become so scarce that it is out of our power to provide ourselves with that article; We therefore desire you to take Pity upon us and consider of this matter.

A String.

Major Connolly made them the following answer :

Bretheren, The Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations:

I would be extreamly glad to do every thing in my power to comply with your Request touching the Regulation of Trade, but as the Great Man of Virginia is much engaged in Business of Importance at this present at that being a matter of consequence cannot be directly complied with, but I make no doubt as soon as circumstances will permit, the Great Man will consider of that matter and will do every thing necessary to satisfy you upon that head. As to the Smith that being a Business immediately under the direction of Colonel Johnson, Capt. McKee will write to him upon that Subject and you will do well to transmit a speech to him signifying the same request.

A String.

Capt. White Eyes then desired the Attendance of his Uncles the six Nations and his Bretheren the Big Knife at the Council House tomorrow morning as he had something to say to them.

July 6th, 1775.

The Council met according to appointment when Capt. White Eyes in behalf the Delawares spoke as follows:

Bretheren the White People and Uncles the six Nations:

As it was proposed yesterday we have met again in the Council House which has been cleaned and made white; We have reason to thank God for allowing us to meet this day and we hope he will be a witness to what passes between us, as you have given us the Chain of Friendship to hold forth to all Nations you may be assured we shall be so particular in that circumstance, that if a Tomhawk was to be struck into our head it should not disengage our hands from the fast hold which we have taken of that Belt; and that you may depend upon it that our utmost attention shall be constantly employed in reflecting upon the good speeches which have now passed between us, and in strengthening and promoting the Friendship as directed by our wise forefathers.

Two Strings one to the White people and the other to the Six Nations.

It gives us particular pleasure that you call upon God to witness our Transactions as he is present upon all occasions and by his assistance we hope what now passes between us may have a lasting Effect. That what has been said on your parts comes sincerely from your hearts as you may be assured that what you now hear from your Bretheren the Dellawares is intirely so and that our Women and Children may hereafter have reason to rejoice at our present transactions.

A Belt to the White People and another to the six Nations.

Bretheren the White people and Uncles to six Nations: As you have swept out the Council house at your Antient forefathers and lighted up the Council fire We look upon it incumbent upon us to afford you our best assistance in this good work, therefore on our parts upon this belt we wipe clean those Council Seats and that when who are young people are sitting in it, it may call to our minds, and consider the prudent Conduct of our wise people formerly with ease and satisfaction and you may depend upon it that we shall always govern our young people in such a manner as never to disturb the good business which is now so happily brought to a conclusion.

Two belts delivered as before.

Uncles the Six Nations Listen to what I am now going to say to my Brother the Big-Knife.

Bretheren the White People: As you have now put the Chain of Friendship into my possession in the presence of my Uncles the Six Nations I now inform you that I take fast hold of it with both my hands: I am glad you have now told us that God will look down upon what passes between us and this is our desire, it puts us in mind of the friendship cultivated by our Forefathers when they first met at the shore side of the great Water and we were so fond of continuing that Friendship then cultivated that we removed back to give you room to settle as you grew more numerous as we then always understood you were one people and governed by one King: We now desire the Big Knife to put one End of this Belt into the hands of King George our Mutual Father and acquaint him we are settled at Quisoching where we hold fast by the other end being the Centre of a tract of Country given to us by our Uncles the Wyandots where we are ready to hear from our great Father the King of England and as we were first that you were one people and had but one King We hope that since we now have become one people, that matters may continue upon the same peaceable footing as we conceive them to be at that same time and that one King shall continue to govern us.

A Belt.

Capt. White Eyes then addressed his Uncle the Six Nations and desired them to look to the place above mentioned when they had anything to say to their Nephews the Delawares, after which he made the following speech to their Bretheren of Pennsylvania—

Brother the Governor of Pennsylvania—

As I have informed my Brother the Big Knife that I am now settled at Quisoching I take the same opportunity of informing you my Brother of Pennsylvania of our situation ; that you may also acquaint our Brother King George of it and that you will put the one end of this belt into his hands and assure him that altho' that antient Friendship which was first made by our Forefathers and yours on their arrival into our Country from the other side of the great Water was for some time disturbed

yet no sooner did we recollect that antient friendship and had our Eyes opened and saw our Bretheren, than we determined to hold fast by that antient chain as made by them which has been strengthened at this time and as the first white people acquainted our forefathers that they were all one and governed by one great King we now hope the same order may still continue as we are deeply interested in that matter from friendship and that the King also would do every in his power to promote good amongst all his people—We have delivered you this Belt that what you say may correspond with what we have said to our Brother the Big Knife upon the same subject—

A Large Belt.

Bretheren the White People and Uncles the Six Nations: You have heard what I have said to you and as I have been busily employed last Fall in bringing about the good work that we are now engaged in as well as last spring, We have now prospect of everything being happily concluded.

A String.

Capt. Kilbuck then address'd the Big Knife in behalf of the Delawares.

Brother the Big Knife: We are glad to hear what you said yesterday concerning our young Peoples hunting on your side the Ohio. You may be assured we shall comply with it and we shall inform our young People at the Wabash to refrain from hunting there untill such time as they hear from this place.

A String.

Brother: You have mentioned that the Trade at this place shall be regulated. We would be very glad you would consider of that matter as soon as possible as our young men may as well sit down and not fatigue themselves to hunt whilst goods are so unreasonable.

A String.

Keyashota in behalf of the six Nations present holding the several Belts and strings which had been delivered in Council to them, returned thanks for the good speeches which had been delivered upon them and said that it gave them the greatest satisfaction to find that we had taken so much pity on them and

that as none of the very heads of the six Nations were present that We would be friendly enough to excuse their not speaking to you so fully as you might have expected upon this occasion. Be assured that we do heartily join with you in every thing that has passed at this meeting and we shall Transmit everything that has been said with the greatest dispatch to the head Council of the six Nations and no Doubt you will hear soon from them of these matters.

Brother: As you have been appointed by the great man of Virginia to desire us to prevent our young people from hunting on your side of the Ohio as there are a great many of the White people settling there now which as you rightly Judge may occasion disturbances, we shall comply with. As you have given the Chair of Friendship to be kept by the Delawares we now recommend it to them to be strong and prevent all the young people from crossing to your side of the river.

A String to the Delawares to inforce this Recommendation.

Major Connolly then answered the Delawares as follows:

Bretheren the Delawares: It has given us great pleasure this day to hear such friendly sentiments from our good Bretheren and we make no doubt of a confirmation of Friendship in this Country and of your assistance in promoting it and you may be assured that the Belt which you have given me to be extended to the hands of our great and good King who as you rightly judge governs us all as one people shall be conveyed to him as expeditiously as possible and I am convinced he will be highly satisfied with the Friendship his Bretheren the Delawares have so warmly expressed for him and there is no doubt that as he has a sincere love for all his white as well as his Indian Friends that he will exert himself to procure happiness to them one and all and as you have by that Belt acquainted him with the place of your intended residence you may shortly expect to hear from him in answer to your friendly speech.

A Large Belt.

Bretheren: With respect to what you mention about the Trade at this place we desire that you would advert to what we said to our Bretheren the Six Nations yesterday on this head and that is a matter that does more properly lay before our

Great Men We shall not fail to represent to them what you have said and we make no Doubt but they will consider the matter properly.

A String.

Keyashota then spoke as follows—

Bretheren : We are glad to hear the good speeches which we have before told you we shall forward them directly to the six Nations and you may look towards us for an answer from them in about two months.

A String of Black Wampum.

Bretheren : We have settled every thing now upon a good footing which gives great satisfaction. But one thing you seem to have forgot which is a little Powder lead for our young men to kill provisions on their Way home.

A String of the same sort.

Major Connolly told them he would consider them before he set off.

A Speech from the Committee of Augusta County on the West side of the Laurel Hill.

Bretheren: It has given us your Bretheren and near neighbours the greatest satisfaction to have heard and seen at this meeting the unhappy differences for some time past subsisting between some of your people and us happily Ended. We have heard what the officer directed by the Earl of Dunmore has said to you on the occasion and we flatter ourselves it will be sufficient to convince you that he means no other than to maintain that Tranquility which alone can make us both happy we now assure you that we shall on our parts take every measure and do every thing in our power to preserve and obtain these desirable Ends.

Bretheren : We consider you in the same Circumstances with ourselves—the great Creator of all things made us both a free people and we are determined with all the powers he hath given us to preserve our Lives and Liberties and our property against every one who shall attempt to deprive us of them. Be assured Bretheren that we will also exert ourselves to maintain you in the undisturbed possession of your natural right and we

expect the same brotherly friendship from you by your not interfering in any of our disputes.

In Testimony of sincere dispositions and Intentions to cultivate a good understanding and a friendly intercourse with you our Bretheren we present you with this Belt.

A Belt.

JOHN CONNOLLY TO GEORGE ROOTES.*

Winchester, August 1st, 1775.

Jno. Connolly to George Rootes, Richmond.

Dear Sir:

I yesterday arrived here from the Warm Springs,† to which place I intentionally conducted three Indians sent with me, to give them an opportunity of seeing as many Gentlemen of Virginia at that place & this season generally bring together. I have finished a treaty with the Shawanese, which I have also brought with me, & I flatter myself it will prove satisfactory to the Gentlemen of the Convention, at Richmond, as it has been particularly so, to the Inhabitants in our Country. You must well know Sir, from a finall retrospect upon the necessary business in which I have been for some considerable time past engaged, that I must have been exposed to considerable expense and that the men substituted [addition?] of a Militia officer [office?] in my Rank, could not be sufficient to have indemnified me, add to this consideration the trouble I have experienced from the Government of Pennsylvania & the necessity I was under of conducting the military affairs of this Government, during our late troubles, throughout the great extent of that remote part of Augusta; a due attention to which important business, caused me entirely to relinquish every other pursuit, & devote myself solely to the publick service.—I should have even blushed to mention any of these circumstances, did not I

* George Rootes, son of Philip Rootes, of "Rosewall," King and Queen county, was member of the Convention of July, 1775, for (West) Augusta, and of that of December, 1775, for Fincastle.

† In the present Bath county.

find that the malice of my Enemies pushed them on to every vile step to prejudice my character, & depreciate the value of my publick services.

Pecuniary acknowledgment alone would be very unsatisfactory to my mind, did it not also bespeak the care of the Government which I have faithfully served, & must therefore silent effectually, the slanderous tongues of the ungenerous.

It has been diligently propagated thro' this Country that I, as a Ministerial Tool, would be extremely solicitous to forward their designs; & should be ready to support every measure which Lord Dunmore might recommend to me, I have only to assure you that such insinuations are malicious, & far foreign to truth; & that no person would sooner shun an act, which must draw down upon Him the censure of His Countrymen than myself; & altho' gratitude, & honor call upon me to testify upon all occasions, the good offices which I experienced from His Excellency Lord Dunmore, yet you may be satisfied, that such impression should operate no farther upon me, than it ought to do, & that I justly distinguish between a ministerial officer, & a Friend, a Gentleman in a private character.

I have some business with, & a letter to the Honorable Payton Randolph, as well as a desire to see Jno. Randolph Esqr. & some other my acquaintance at Williamsburg, & must confess that I should also if agreeable, desire to see the Governor & I did not care under whatever restrictions was it judged necessary, I am &

Sir your most obed Servt.

JNO. CONNOLLY.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)